

Application No. 10/725,109

Response date July 6, 2005

Response to Final Office Action dated 2/8/2005 and Advisory Action dated 5/16/2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) A product netting machine comprising:

a base;

a chute on the base having a receiving end for receiving products, and a discharge end for discharging products, the chute including a netting rucker to receive netting rucked on the rucker, and to permit netting to move with discharged products from the discharge end;

a product receiver on the base at the discharge end of the chute;

voiders on the base operated to form a rope section of the netting between the product receiver and the discharge end of the chute when a discharged product is on the product receiver;

a clipper on the base operated to clip the rope section of the netting; and

a netting handle former on the base operated to loop the rope section to form a looped handle in the rope section of the netting, whereby successively netted and clipped products are formed by the product netting machine, the handle former including a loop former movable to engage the rope section, movable to draw the engaged rope section to create a loop-length of the rope section, and movable to twist the engaged, drawn, loop-length of rope section to form a loop, and for a rope section defining a line of movement of the rope section, the loop former movable transversely of the line to extend past the rope section and engage the rope section on retraction, the loop former retractable transversely to draw the rope section and the

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loop former rotatable around an axis skewed from the line to twist the rope section, to form the loop; and

~~A product netting machine as in claim 6,~~ the handle former further including motive means on the base for moving the loop former transversely of the line, and rotatably around an axis skewed from the line.

8. (Original) A product netting machine as in claim 7, the motive means for moving the loop former rotatably around an axis perpendicular to the line, to overlap two spaced segments of the rope section while forming a loop between the spaced segments.

9. (Original) A product netting machine as in claim 8, the loop former including a disc with an outer perimeter to form the loop around the outer perimeter of the disc.

10. (Original) A product netting machine as in claim 9, the motive means further for moving the disc linearly transversely to the line, for allowing the disc to move past the rope section and then engage the rope section with the loop forming around the outer perimeter of the disc on retraction of the loop former.

11. (Original) A product netting machine as in claim 10, the loop former further including an openable and closable clam shell including the disc.

12. (Currently Amended) A product netting machine as in claim 12, further comprising product guides on the base associated with the product receiver.

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13. (Original) A product netting machine as in claim 12, the product guides being pivotally mounted for engaging and disengaging products on the product receiver.

14. (Original) A product netting machine as in claim 12, the product guides mounted on opposite sides of the discharge end of the chute.

15. (Original) A product netting machine as in claim 12, the product guides holding the product adjacent the voiders.

16. (Currently Amended) A product netting machine as in claim 17, further comprising means for sensing a product on the product receiver and actuating the voiders and clipper.

17. (Currently Amended) A product netting machine as in claim 17, further comprising means for sensing a product on the product receiver and actuating the voiders, clipper and netting handle former.

18. (Currently Amended) A product netting machine as in claim 17, in which the chute is gravity driven and includes product ribs or rails for centering and ease of movement of products.

19. – 21. (Cancelled).